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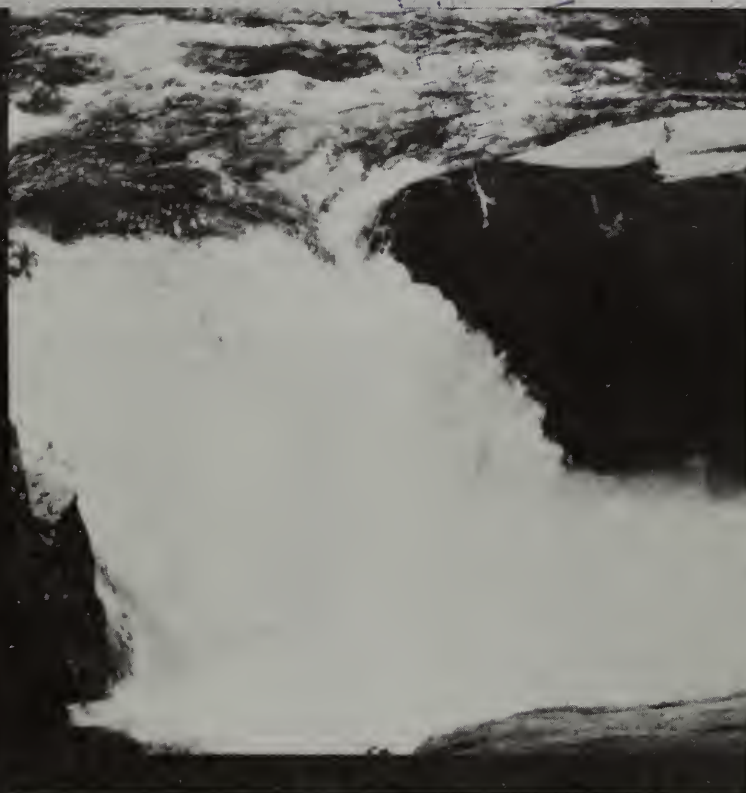
Soil  
Conservation  
Service

Reno  
Nevada



# Nevada Water Supply Outlook

February 1, 1988



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# Foreword

## How Forecasts Are Made

Most of the annual streamflow in the Western United States originates as snowfall. This snowfall accumulates high in the mountains during winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Predictions are based on careful measurements of snow water equivalent at selected index points. Precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and antecedent streamflow data are viewed in conjunction with snowpack data to prepare runoff forecasts. This report presents a comprehensive picture of water supply outlook conditions for areas dependent upon surface runoff. It includes selected streamflow forecasts, summarized snowpack and precipitation data, reservoir storage data and narratives describing current conditions.

Streamflow forecasts are cooperatively generated by Soil Conservation Service and National Weather Service hydrologists. Forecasts become more accurate as more data affecting runoff becomes known. For this reason, forecasts are issued that reflect three future precipitation conditions — Below Normal, Average, and Above Normal. These forecasts are terms reasonable minimum, most probable, and reasonable maximum. Actual streamflow can be expected to fall between the lower and upper forecast values eight out of ten years.

Snowpack data are obtained by using a combination of manual and automated measurement methods. Manual readings of snow depth and water equivalent are taken at locations called snow courses on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule during the winter. In addition, snow water equivalent, precipitation, temperature, and other parameters are monitored on a daily basis and transmitted via radio telemetry to central data collection facilities. Both monthly and daily data are used to project snowmelt runoff.

## For More Information

Copies of Monthly Water Supply Outlook Reports and other reports may be obtained from the states listed below. An annual snow survey data summary is published by the Soil Conservation Service for each of the western states. Historical snow survey data may be obtained at those same offices.

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	201 East 9th Ave., Suite 300, Anchorage, AK 99501-3687
Arizona	201 East Indianola, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85012
Colorado	2490 West 26th Ave., Denver, CO 80211
New Mexico	517 Gold Ave. S.W., Room 3301, Albuquerque, NM 87102-3157
Idaho	304 North 8th Street, Room 345, Boise, ID 83702
Montana	10 East Babcock, Room 443, Federal Building, Bozeman, MT 59715
Nevada	1201 Terminal Way, Room 219, Reno, NV 89502
Oregon	1220 Southwest 3rd Ave., Room 1640, Portland, OR 97204
Utah	4402 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84147
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, WA 99201-1080
Wyoming	Federal Building, 100 East "B" Street, Casper, WY 82601

In addition to state reports, a Water Supply Outlook for the Western United States is published by the Soil Conservation Service and National Weather Service monthly, January through May. Reports may be obtained from the Soil Conservation Service, West National Technical Center, 511 Northwest Broadway, Room 248, Portland, OR 97209.

Published by other agencies:

Water Supply Outlook Reports prepared by other agencies include: California — Snow Survey Branch, California Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 388, Sacramento, CA 95802; British Columbia — The Ministry of Environment, Water Investigations Branch, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia, V8V 1X5; Yukon Territory — Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Northern Operations Branch, 200 Range Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Y1A 3V1; Alberta, Environment Technical Services Division, 9820 106th St., Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2J6.

# **Nevada Water Supply Outlook**

and

## **Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys**

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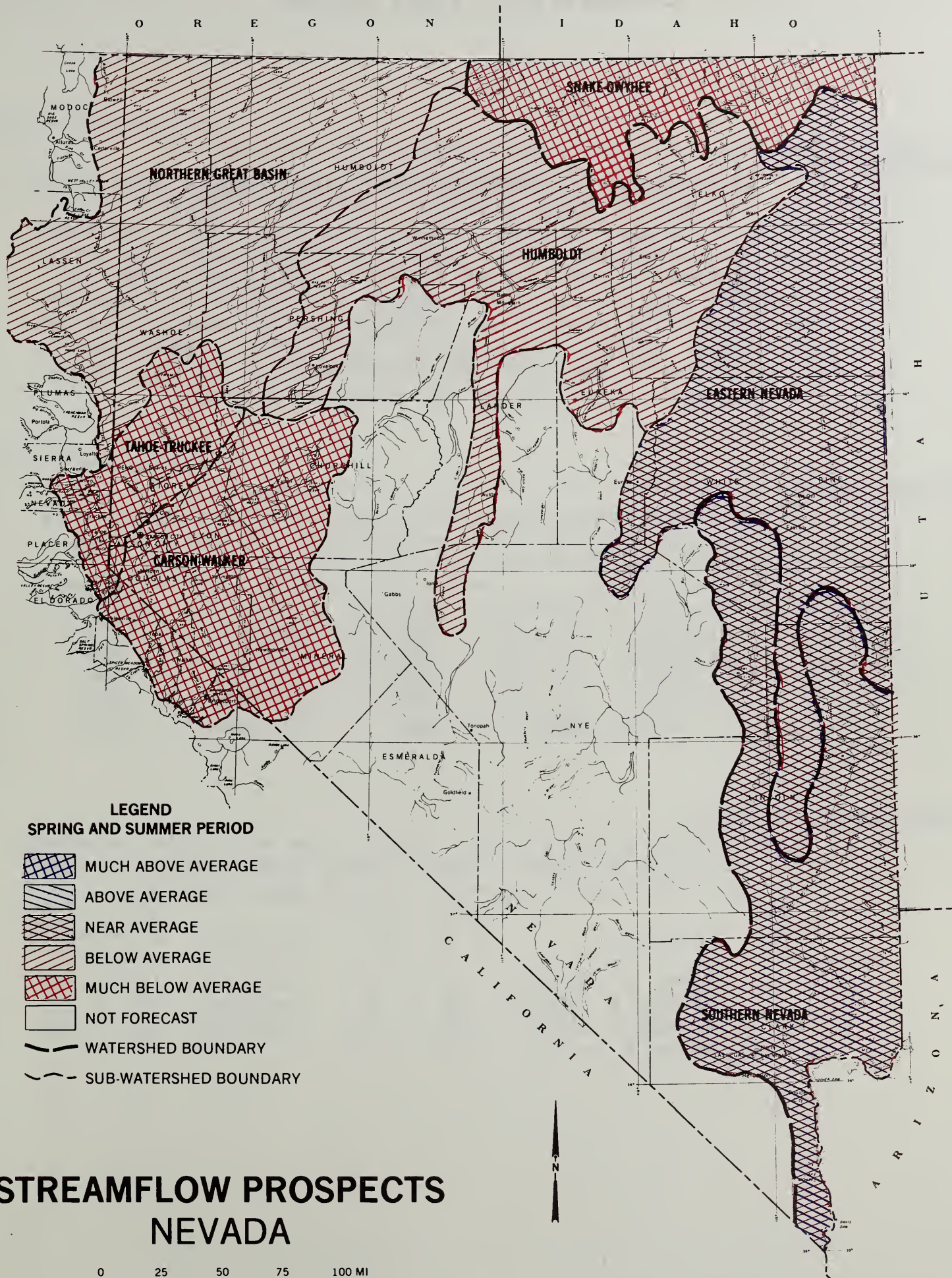
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## GENERAL OUTLOOK

### SUMMARY:

ON FEBRUARY 1, SNOWPACK CONDITIONS RANGED FROM BELOW AVERAGE TO ABOVE AVERAGE IN NEVADA. PRECIPITATION FOR JANUARY WAS WELL BELOW AVERAGE TO ABOVE AVERAGE. PRECIPITATION SINCE OCTOBER 1 RANGED FROM WELL BELOW AVERAGE TO WELL ABOVE AVERAGE. DRY CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY. RESERVOIR STORAGE ON THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY WAS WELL BELOW AVERAGE FOR MOST OF THE STATE. STREAMFLOW FORECASTS INDICATE WELL BELOW AVERAGE TO WELL ABOVE AVERAGE FLOWS DURING THE FORECAST PERIOD.

### SNOWPACK:

Snowpack conditions range from below average in the western portion of Nevada to above average in the southern portion of the state.

BASIN	% OF AVG.	BASIN	% OF AVG.
-----	-----	-----	-----
TAHOE.....	73%	HUMBOLDT.....	104%
TRUCKEE.....	75%	SNAKE.....	83%
CARSON.....	77%	OWYHEE.....	89%
WALKER.....	76%	EASTERN.....	105%
N. GREAT BASIN.....	93%	SOUTHERN.....	113%

### PRECIPITATION:

January precipitation ranged from well below average to above average. Year-to-date precipitation ranged from well below average to well above average.

BASIN(S)	2/1   YTD % OF AVG.	BASIN(S)	2/1   YTD % OF AVG.
-----	-----	-----	-----
TAHOE & TRUCKEE	65   60	HUMBOLDT	117   98
CARSON & WALKER	68   71	EASTERN	115   111
N. GREAT BASIN	107   75	SOUTHERN	109   171
SNAKE & OWYHEE	79   75		



## RESERVOIRS:

Reservoir storage was well below average for most of Nevada. Southern Nevada had above average storage.

BASIN(S)	% CAPACITY	% OF AVERAGE
TAHOE & TRUCKEE.....	32%	60%
CARSON & WALKER.....	39%	62%
HUMBOLDT.....	31%	60%
SNAKE & OWYHEE.....	30%	81%
SOUTHERN NEVADA.....	94%	125%
SEVEN MAJOR RESERVOIRS.....	33%	60%

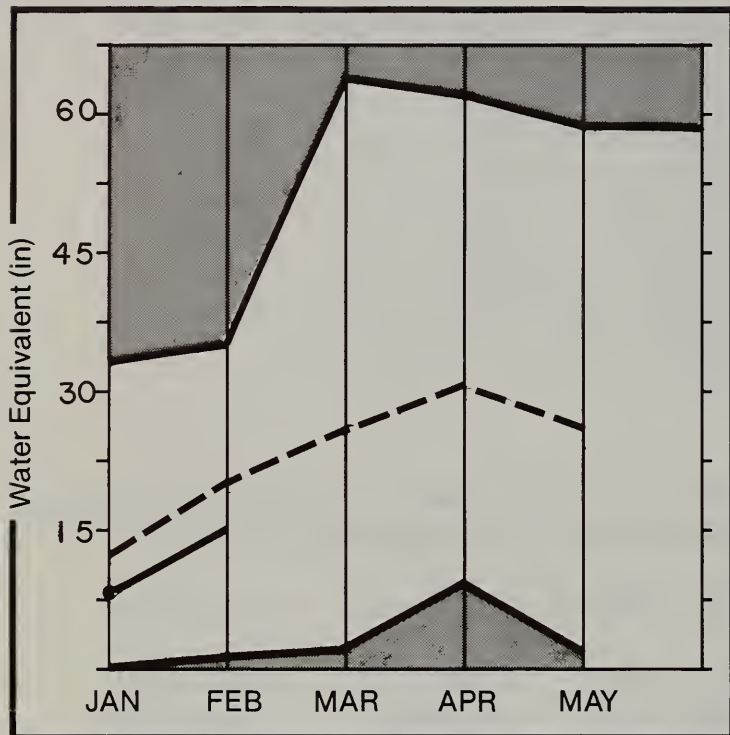
## STREAMFLOW:

Streamflows in the state are forecast at well below average to well above average for the April - July forecast period.

BASIN(S)	% OF AVG.	BASIN(S)	% OF AVG.
TAHOE & TRUCKEE	60%-77%	HUMBOLDT	75%-99%
CARSON & WALKER	65%-71%	EASTERN	90%-121%
N. GREAT BASIN	72%-80%	SOUTHERN	93%-140%
SNAKE & OWYHEE	55%-72%		

# TAHOE & TRUCKEE BASINS

**Mountain snowpack\*** (inches)

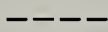


\*Based on selected stations

Maximum



Average



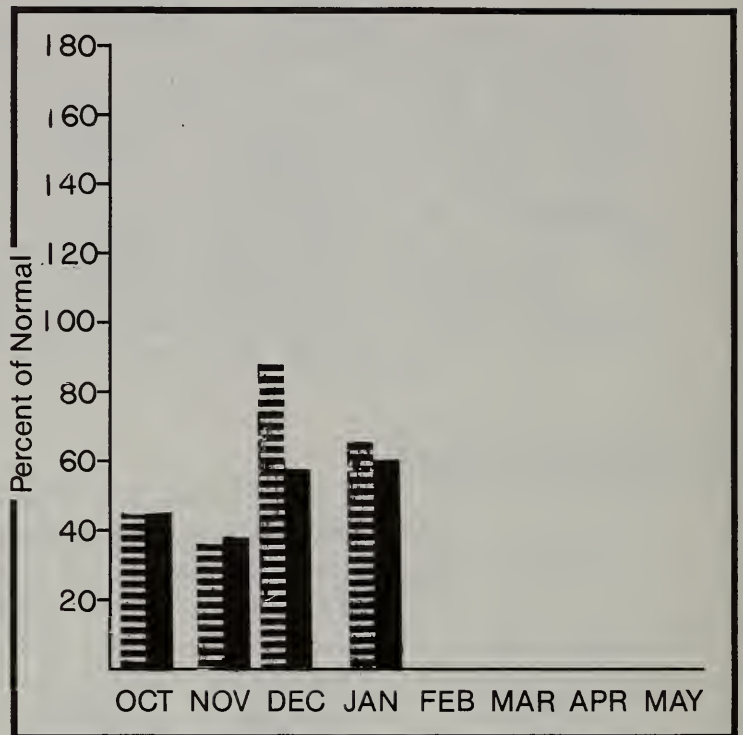
Minimum



Current



**Precipitation\*** (percent of normal)



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation



Year to date precipitation



## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are below average. The Lake Tahoe Basin has about 73% of the February 1 average and 185% of the water content present last year at this time. The Truckee River Basin currently has 75% of average and 208% of last year. January precipitation for the Tahoe-Truckee Basin was 65% of average and 121% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 60% of average and 235% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Reservoir storage is 60% of average. Total storage for Boca, Lake Tahoe, Prosser and Stampede is 333,334 acre feet. Streamflow forecasts indicate well below average to below average flows for the forecast period. The Truckee River at Farad is expected to flow at 67% of normal.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

# TAHOE & TRUCKEE BASINS

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
LAKE TAHOE RISE (assume gates closed)	APR-HIG	1.5	0.9	67	2.0	135	0.2	14
TRUCKEE RIVER at Farad 2	APR-JUL	284.7	190.0	67	375.0	132	30.0	11
LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER above Boca 2	APR-JUL	91.5	63.0	69	125.0	137	20.0	22
PYRAMID LAKE RISE (LOW 2/1/87)	LOW-HIG	1.2	-0.5	-41				
STEAMBOAT CREEK at Steamboat 2	APR-JUL	7.1	4.3	61	8.0	113	2.0	28
SAGEHEN CREEK, Ca	APR-JUL	6.5	5.0	77	9.0	138	2.0	31
GALENA CREEK nr Steamboat, Nv	APR-JUL	4.5	2.7	60	5.0	111	2.0	44

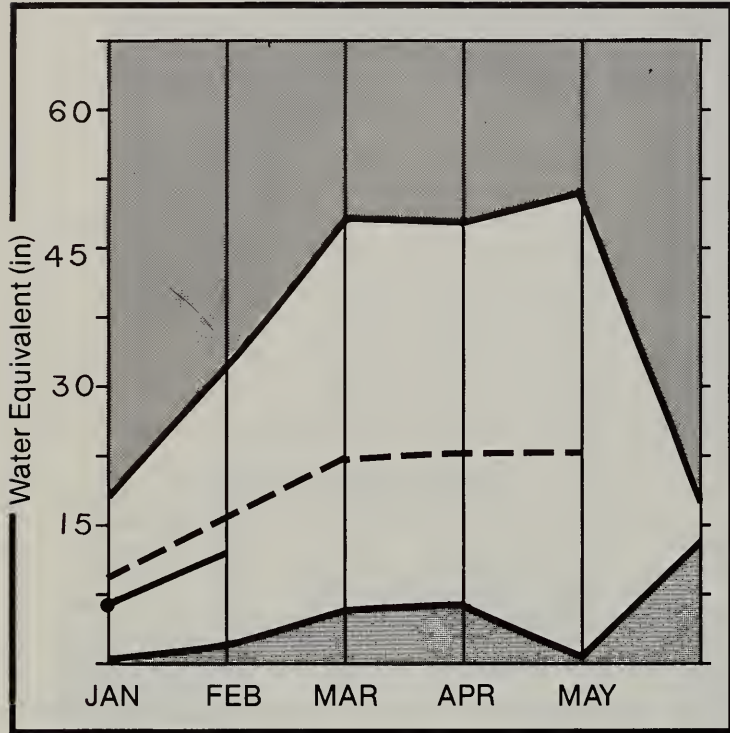
RESERVOIR STORAGE (1000AF)					WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS			
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	USEABLE STORAGE THIS YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE LAST YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE	
BOCA RESERVOIR	40.9	10.3	22.7	18.5	LAKE TAHOE RISE	15	185	73
LAKE TAHOE	744.6	234.5	468.5	405.1	TRUCKEE BASIN	18	210	75
PROSSER RESERVOIR	28.6	9.8	9.2	8.4	LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER	3	195	73
STAMPEDE RESERVOIR	226.5	78.7	182.7	123.9	SAGE HEN CREEK	5	176	78
					GALENA CREEK	3	243	69
					STEAMBOAT DRAINAGE	3	276	71
					PYRAMID LAKE	33	199	74

1 - Reas. max. and reas. min. forecasts are for 5% and 95% exceedance levels and also (2) below.  
2 - Corrected for upstream diversions or changes in reservoir storage.  
The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.



## CARSON & WALKER BASINS

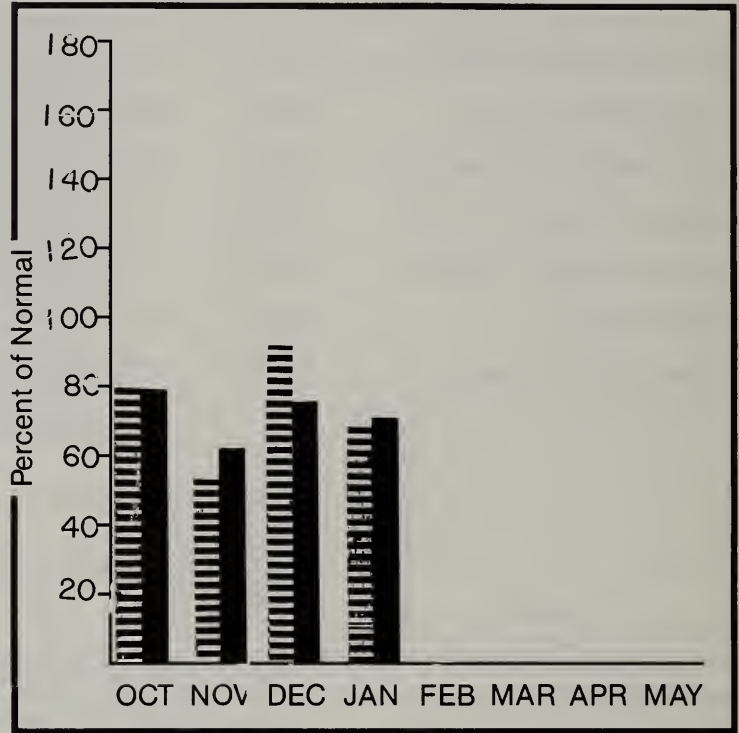
Mountain snowpack\* (inches)



\*Based on selected stations

Maximum Average   
Minimum Current

Precipitation\* (percent of normal)



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation Year to date precipitation

### WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are below average. The Carson River Basin has about 77% of the February 1 average and 238% of the water content present last year at this time. The Walker River Basin currently has 76% of average and 253% of last year. January precipitation in the Carson-Walker Basins was 68% of average and 126% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 71% of average and 261% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Reservoir storage is 62% of average. Total storage for Bridgeport, Lahontan and Topaz is 155,060 acre feet. Streamflow forecasts indicate well below average to below average flows for the forecast period. The Carson River near Carson City is expected to flow at 68% of normal.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

## CARSON &amp; WALKER BASINS

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
EF CARSON RIVER nr Gardnerville, Nv	APR-JUL	198.4	140.0	71	210.0	106	70.0	35
WF CARSON RIVER at Woodfords, Ca	APR-JUL	56.7	40.0	71	60.0	106	20.0	35
CARSON RIVER near Carson City, Nv	APR-JUL	198.3	135.0	68	250.0	126	45.0	23
CARSON RIVER near Ft. Churchill, Nv	APR-JUL	182.4	120.0	66	240.0	132	30.0	16
EAST WALKER RIVER nr Bridgeport 2	APR-AUG	76.8	50.0	65	95.0	124	10.0	13
WEST WALKER RIVER near Coleville, Ca	APR-JUL	154.6	100.0	65	165.0	107	35.0	23
WALKER LAKE RISE (LOW 2/1/87)	LOW-HIG	-0.0	-1.3	25				

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1000AF)					WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS			
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	USEABLE STORAGE THIS YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE LAST YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR.	% OF AVERAGE
BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR	42.5	12.6	33.1	28.3	E. CARSON RIVER	5	264	78
LAHONTAN RESERVOIR	295.1	129.3	198.6	194.6	W. CARSON RIVER	4	272	77
TOPAZ RESERVOIR	59.4	13.2	31.9	26.9	CARSON Rv. at Carson City	4	240	77
					CARSON Rv. at Ft. Churchi	4	240	77
					E. WALKER Rv. nr Bridgepo	7	237	78
					W. WALKER Rv. nr Colevill	8	238	72
					WALKER LAKE RISE	10	253	76

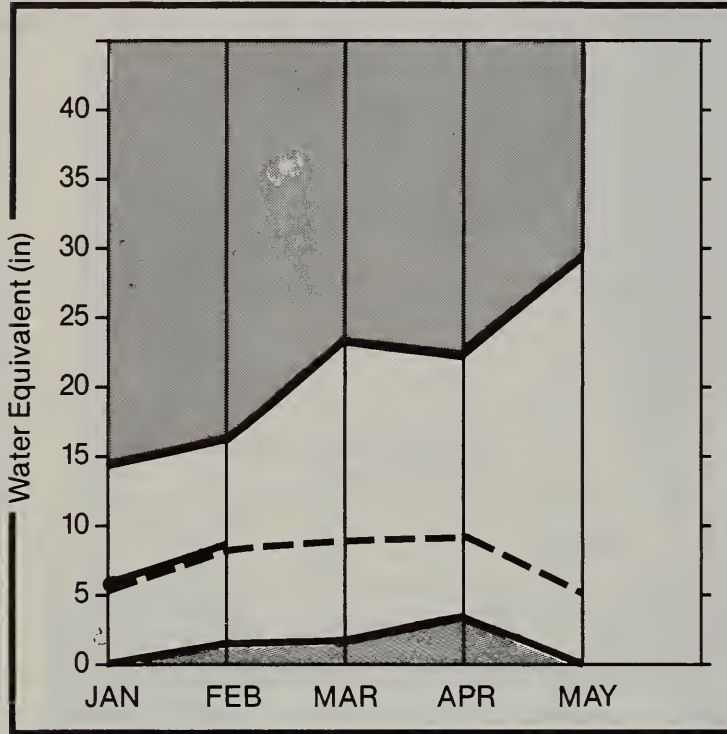
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The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.

# HUMBOLDT BASIN

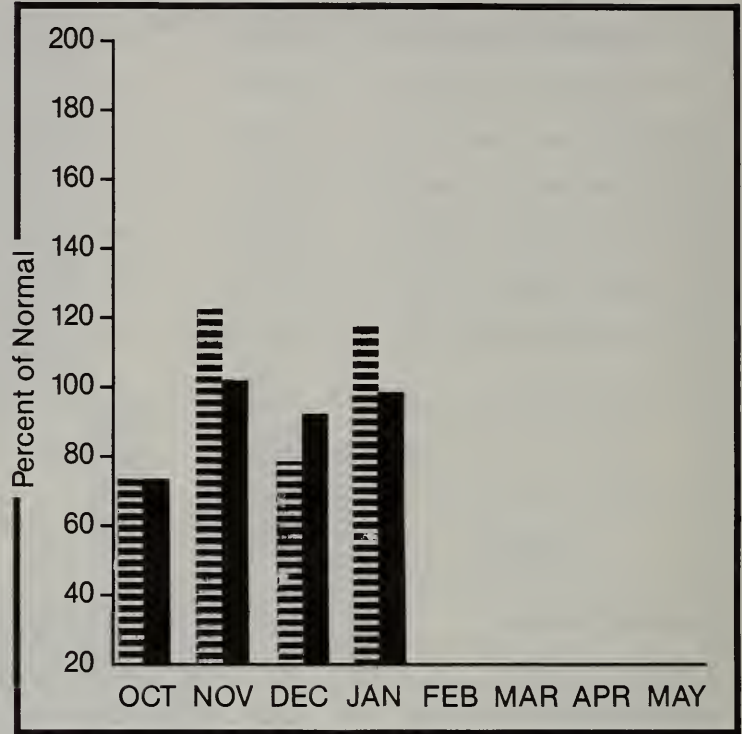
**Mountain snowpack\* (inches)**



\*Based on selected stations

Maximum Average Minimum Current

**Precipitation\* (percent of normal)**



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation Year to date precipitation

## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are near average. The Upper Humboldt River Basin has about 104% of the February 1 average and 263% of the water content present last year at this time. The Lower Humboldt River Basin currently has 103% of average and 287% of last year. January precipitation in the Humboldt River Basin was 117% of average and 163% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 98% of average and 230% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Reservoir storage is 60% of average. Total storage for Rye Patch Reservoir is 60,500 acre feet. Streamflow forecasts indicate below average to near average flows for the forecast period. The Humboldt River at Palisade is expected to flow at 89% of average.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.



## HUMBOLDT BASIN

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

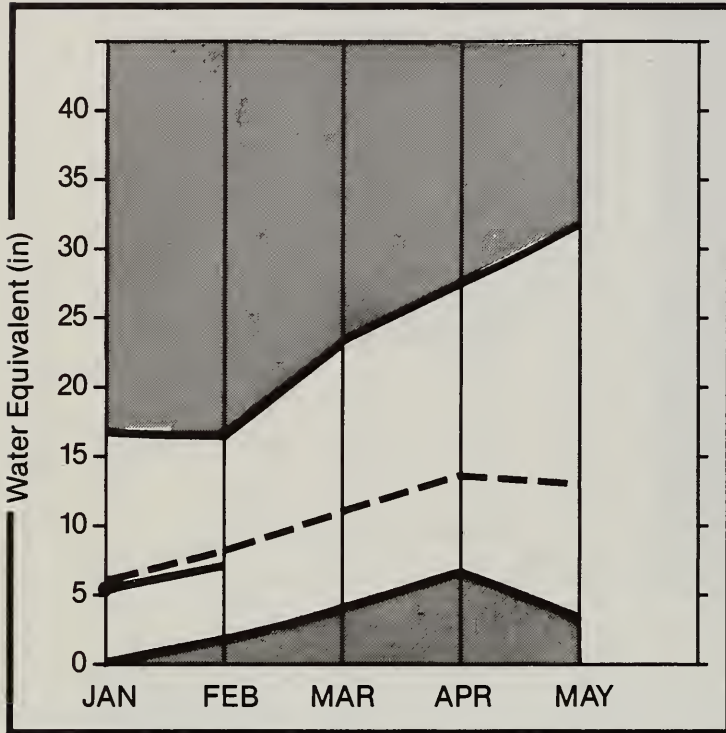
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
HUMBOLDT RIVER at Palisade	APR-JUL	269.0	240.0	89	470.0	175	50.0	19
HUMBOLDT RIVER at Comus	APR-JUL	229.1	200.0	87	455.0	199	45.0	20
S FORK HUMBOLDT RIVER at Dixie	APR-JUL	71.5	63.0	88	117.0	164	10.0	14
NF HUMBOLDT RIVER at Devils Gate	APR-JUL	34.3	26.0	76	55.0	160	7.0	20
MARY'S RIVER nr Deeth	APR-JUL	24.4	18.3	75	32.0	131	5.0	20
MARTIN CREEK nr Paradise Nv	APR-JUL	19.0	16.0	84	26.0	137	5.0	26
LAMOILLE CREEK nr Lamoille	APR-JUL	29.5	28.0	95	41.0	139	15.0	51
REESE RIVER nr Ione Nv	APR-JUL	7.8	7.7	99	14.0	179	2.0	26
L. HUMBOLDT RIVER nr Paradise Valley	APR-JUL	12.5	10.5	84	17.0	136	4.0	32
ROCK CREEK nr Battle Mtn.	APR-JUL	22.0	19.0	86	36.0	164	4.0	18

RESERVOIR STORAGE		(1000AF)			WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS			
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	USEABLE STORAGE	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE
RYE PATCH RESERVOIR	194.3	60.5	137.6	100.8		LAMOILLE CREEK	3	250 95
						S. FORK HUMBOLDT	7	246 108
						MARY'S RIVER	5	156 83
						N. FORK HUMBOLDT	7	160 89
						HUMBOLDT Rv. at Palisades	11	194 95
						HUMBOLDT RIVER at Comus	11	194 95
						LITTLE HUMBOLDT RIVER	3	146 80
						MARTIN CREEK	4	146 80
						REESE RIVER	2	4520 314
						ROCK CREEK	5	185 81

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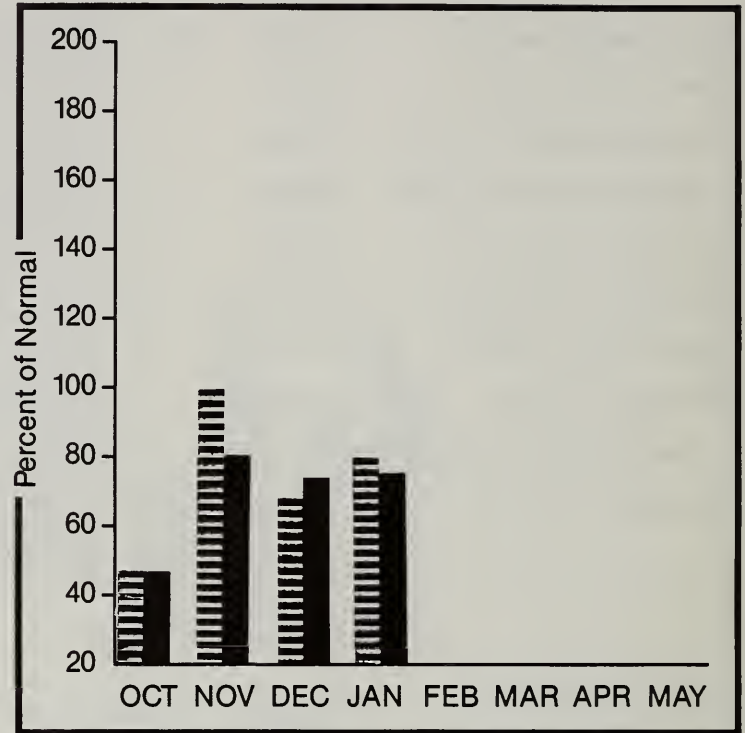
# SNAKE & OUYHEE BASINS

Mountain snowpack\* (inches)


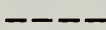






\*Based on selected stations

Precipitation\* (percent of normal)



\*Based on selected stations

Maximum  Average   
 Minimum  Current 

Monthly precipitation  Year to date precipitation 

## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are below average. The Snake River Basin has about 83% of the February 1 average and 157% of the water content present last year at this time. The Owyhee River Basin currently has 89% of average and 148% of last year. January precipitation in the Snake-Owyhee Basins was 79% of average and 113% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 75% of average and 179% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Reservoir storage is 81% of average. Total storage for Wildhorse Reservoir is 21,550 acre feet. Streamflow forecasts indicate well below average to below average flows for the forecast period. The Owyhee River near Owyhee is expected to flow at 57% of average.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

SNAKE & OMYHEE BASINS

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
OMYHEE RIVER near Gold Creek	MAR-JUL	36.4	21.0	58	40.0	110	4.0	11
OMYHEE RIVER nr Owyhee	APR-JUL	86.0	47.0	55	101.0	117	15.0	17
S FORK OMYHEE nr White Rock, Nv	APR-JUL	83.0	50.0	60	102.0	123	18.0	22
SALMON FALLS CK nr San Jacinto	MAR-JUL	97.0	73.0	75	111.0	114	36.0	37

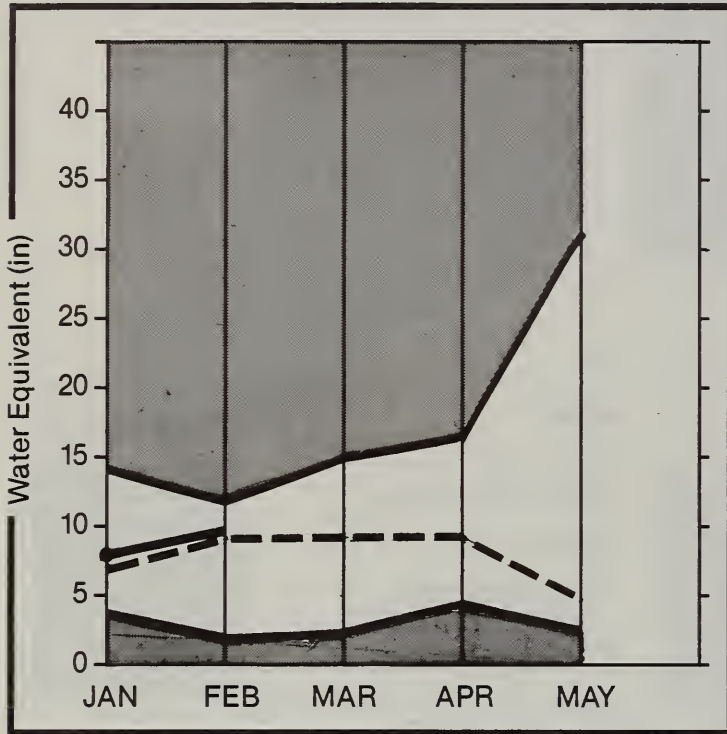
RESERVOIR STORAGE (1000AF)					WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS		
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	USEABLE STORAGE THIS YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE LAST YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE
WILDHORSE RESERVOIR	71.5	21.6	40.1	26.6	OMYHEE RIVER nr Owyhee	7	142 79
					OMYHEE Rv. nr Gold Creek	2	172 77
					S. FORK OMYHEE RIVER	7	142 79
					SALMON FALLS CREEK	4	157 81

- 1 - Reas. max. and reas. min. forecasts are for 5% and 95% exceedance levels and also (2) below.  
 2 - Corrected for upstream diversions or changes in reservoir storage.  
 The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.



## EASTERN NEVADA

**Mountain snowpack\* (inches)**

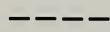


\*Based on selected stations

Maximum



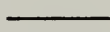
Average



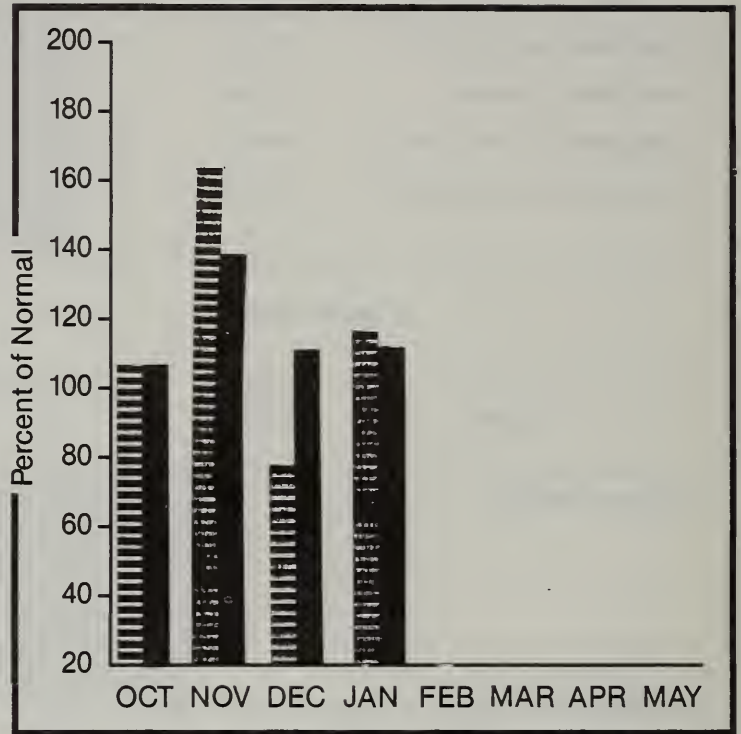
Minimum



Current

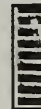


**Precipitation\* (percent of normal)**



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation



Year to date precipitation



### WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are near average. The snow water content in the Franklin River Basin is about 127% of average and 227% of last year at this time. The snowpack in the Kingston Creek Basin is about 314% of average. Overall, the Eastern Nevada Basin has about 105% of the February 1 average. January precipitation in the Eastern Nevada Basin was 115% of average and 166% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 111% of average and 248% of last year's total precipitation figures as this time. Streamflow forecasts indicate near average to above average flows for the forecast period. The Franklin River near Arthur is expected to flow at 114% of normal.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

## EASTERN NEVADA

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
STEPTOE CREEK nr Ely	APR-JUL	3.2	2.9	90	5.0	155	1.0	31
KINGSTON CREEK nr Austin, Nv	APR-JUL	4.2	5.1	121	8.0	190	2.0	47
FRANKLIN RIVER nr Arthur	APR-JUL	6.9	7.8	114	13.0	190	3.0	44

RESERVOIR STORAGE		(1000AF)		WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS			
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE
					FRANKLIN RIVER	2	227 127
					KINGSTON CREEK	2	4320 314
					EASTERN NEVADA	0	0 0
					STEPTOE VALLEY	0	0 0

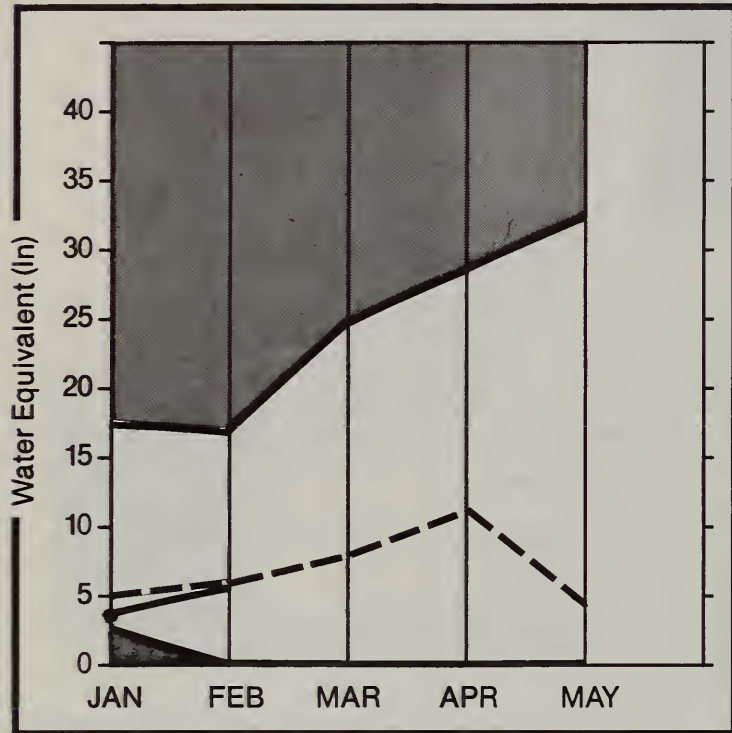
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2 - Corrected for upstream diversions or changes in reservoir storage.

The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.

# NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

**Mountain snowpack\* (inches)**



\*Based on selected stations

Maximum



Average



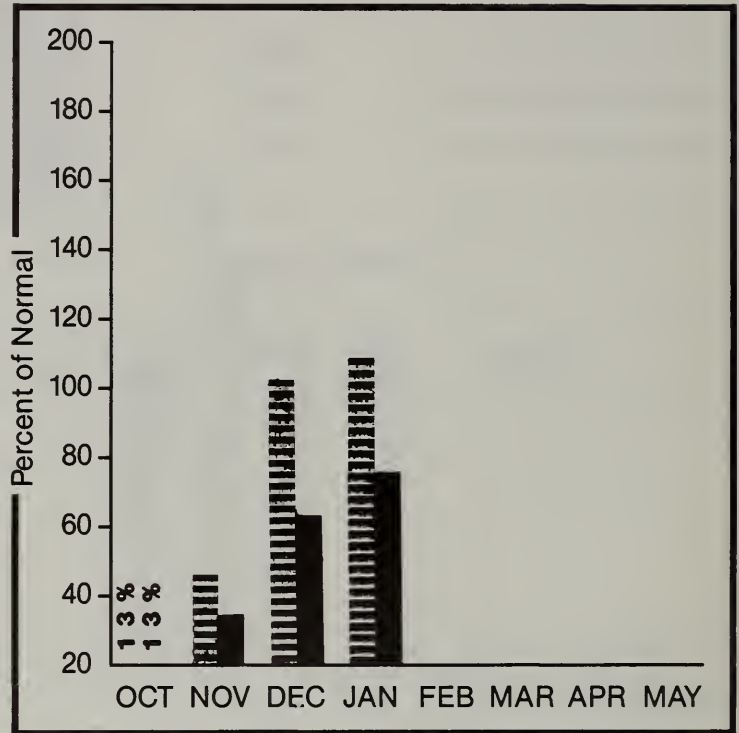
Minimum



Current



**Precipitation\* (percent of normal)**



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation



Year to date precipitation



## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are near average. Snow water content in the Bidwell Creek Watershed is about 83% of average and 136% of last year. The Quinn River Watershed is about 80% of average and 168% of last year. Overall, the Northern Great Basin has 93% of the February 1 average and 159% of the water content present last year at this time. January precipitation in the Northern Great Basin was 107% of average and 151% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 75% of average and 154% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Streamflow forecasts indicate below average flows for the forecast period. Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell is expected to flow at 80% of normal.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.



NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

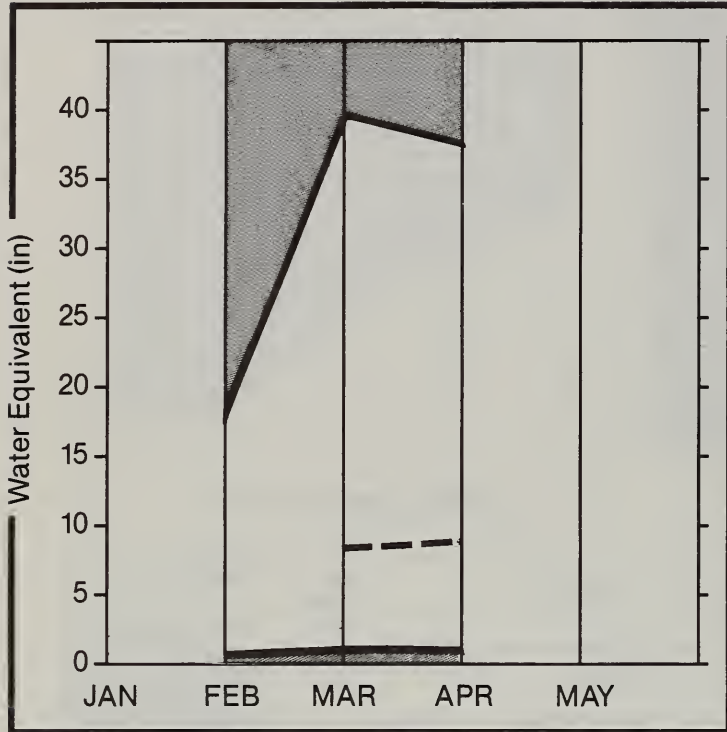
FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
BIDWELL CREEK nr Fort Bidwell	APR-JUL	12.0	9.6	80	20.0	167	4.0	33
DEEP CREEK nr Cedarville, Ca	APR-JUL	3.6	2.6	72	5.0	139	1.0	28
EAGLE CREEK nr Eagleville, Ca	APR-JUL	4.3	3.1	72	6.0	140	1.0	23
MILL CREEK nr Cedarville, Ca	APR-JUL	4.1	3.3	80	6.0	146	1.0	24
QUINN RIVER nr McDermitt, Nv	APR-JUL	16.0	12.0	75	21.0	131	4.0	25
E. FORK QUINN RIVER nr McDermitt	APR-JUL	10.4	7.7	74	13.0	125	2.0	19
MCDERMITT CREEK nr McDermitt	APR-JUL	14.4	10.8	75	19.0	132	4.0	28

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1000AF)					WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS		
RESERVOIR	USEABLE I CAPACITY I	XX USEABLE STORAGE XX THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE
					BIDWELL	4	136 83
					MILL CREEK	2	137 79
					DEEP CREEK	2	137 79
					EAGLE CREEK	2	137 79
					QUINN RIVER	3	168 80
					E. FORK QUINN	3	168 80
					MCDERMITT CREEK	3	168 80

1 - Reas. max. and reas. min. forecasts are for 5% and 95% exceedance levels and also (2) below.  
 2 - Corrected for upstream diversions or changes in reservoir storage.  
 The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.

# SOUTHERN NEVADA

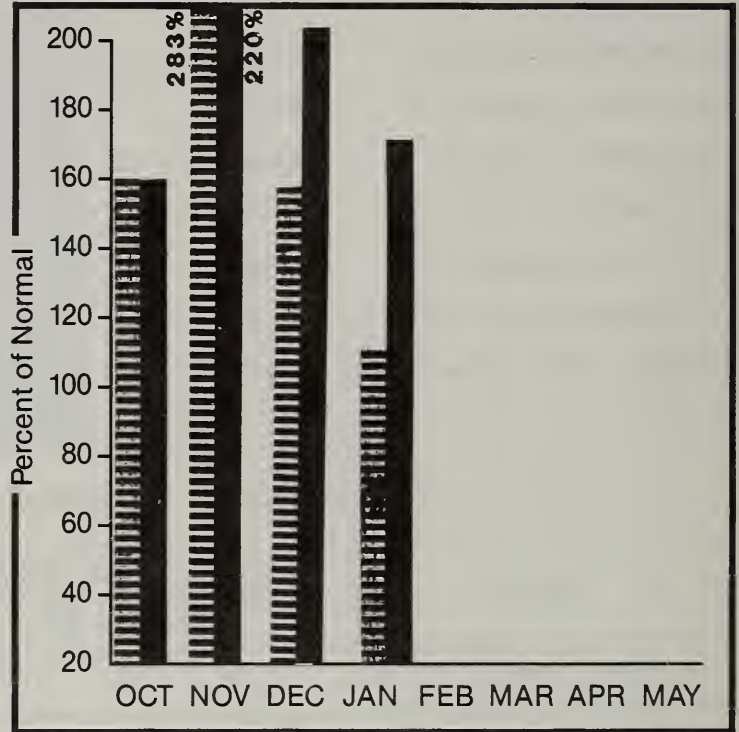
**Mountain snowpack\* (inches)**





\*Based on selected stations

Maximum  Average   
 Minimum  Current 

**Precipitation\* (percent of normal)**



\*Based on selected stations

Monthly precipitation  Year to date precipitation 

## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK:

Snowpack conditions for February 1 are above average. The Virgin River Watershed has about 113% of the February 1 average and 237% of the water content present last year at this time. January precipitation in the Southern Nevada Basin was 109% of average and 68% of last year. Precipitation since October 1, 1987 is 171% of average and 175% of last year's total precipitation figures at this time. Reservoir storage is 125% of average. Total storage for Lake Mohave and Lake Mead is 24,574,000 acre feet. Streamflow forecasts indicate the Virgin River near Hurricane, UT will flow at 140% of average during the April-July forecast period.

For more information contact your local Soil Conservation Service office.

## SOUTHERN NEVADA

## STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	25 YR. AVG. (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (1000AF)	MOST PROBABLE (% AVG.)	REAS. MAX. (1000AF)	REAS. MAX. (% AVG.)	REAS. MIN. (1000AF)	REAS. MIN. (% AVG.)
VIRGIN RIVER near Hurricane, UT	APR-JUL	68.0	95.0	140	130.0	191	60.0	88
LAKE POWELL inflow	APR-JUL	8086.0	7500.0	93	10960.0	136	4445.0	55

RESERVOIR STORAGE (1000AF)					WATERSHED SNOWPACK ANALYSIS		
RESERVOIR	USEABLE CAPACITY	USEABLE STORAGE THIS YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE LAST YEAR	USEABLE STORAGE AVG.	WATERSHED	NO. COURSES AVG'D	THIS YEAR AS % OF LAST YR. AVERAGE
LAKE MOHAVE	1810.0	1636.0	1718.0	1603.0	VIRGIN Rv. at Littlefield	4	237 113
LAKE MEAD	26159.0	24574.0	24432.0	19301.0	VIRGIN Rv. at Hurricane	4	237 113

1 - Reas. max. and reas. min. forecasts are for 5% and 95% exceedance levels and also (2) below.

2 - Corrected for upstream diversions or changes in reservoir storage.

The average is computed for the 1961-85 base period.



# SNOW DATA MEASUREMENTS

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-85
-----						
LAKE TAHOE						
ECHO PEAK (CA)	7800	1/27/88	60	21.1	10.8	27.8
ECHO SUMMIT (CA)	7450	1/28/88	49	14.8	8.2	22.1
FALLEN LEAF (CA)	6300	1/27/88	20	5.8	2.2	6.5
FREEL BENCH (CA)	7300	1/26/88	21	5.3	3.4	8.6
GLENBROOK #2	6900	1/27/88	---	5.4E	4.0	7.9
HAGANS MEADOW (CA)	8000	1/26/88	32	7.8	4.4	12.4
HEAVENLY VALLEY (CA)	8850	1/28/88	45	14.9	6.2	19.5
LAKE LUCILLE (CA)	8200	2/02/88	---	29.2E	16.2	39.1
MARLETTE LAKE	8000	1/27/88	36	9.1	6.9	14.5
RICHARDSONS #2 (CA)	6500	1/27/88	---	9.6E	4.7	10.7
RUBICON #1 (CA)	8100	1/28/88	---	19.1E	--	26.9
RUBICON #2 (CA)	7500	2/01/88	---	17.3E	6.6	24.4
TAHOE CITY CROSS(CA)	6750	2/01/88	---	9.9E	4.1	13.3
TRUCKEE, UPPER (CA)	6400	1/26/88	17	3.7	2.8	6.9
WARD CREEK #2 (CA)	7000	2/03/88	64	20.7	10.7	26.6
WARD CREEK #3 (CA)	6750	1/27/88	56	17.1	12.6	23.5
TRUCKEE RIVER						
BIG MEADOWS	8300	1/27/88	37	10.3	5.1	19.1
BOCA #2 (CA)	5900	1/27/88	---	3.6E	2.6	4.4
BROCKWAY SUMMIT (CA)	7100	2/03/88	32	9.2	3.4	12.4
CASTLE CREEK (CA)	7400	2/02/88	82	27.6	12.7	33.8
DONNER PARK #2 (CA)	6000	2/01/88	---	7.8E	3.3	9.9
DONNER SUMMIT (CA)	6900	1/26/88	61	21.0	8.4	24.8
FORDYCE LAKE (CA)	6500	1/27/88	57	19.9	12.9	24.3
FURNACE FLAT (CA)	6700	1/26/88	72	24.9	14.5	29.7
INDEPENDENCE CAMP CA	7000	1/27/88	36	10.0	5.4	14.5
INDEPENDENCE CREEK	6500	1/27/88	26	7.0	3.2	8.3
INDEPENDENCE LAKE CA	8450	1/27/88	58	18.1	9.4	25.6
LITTLE VALLEY	6300	1/27/88	17	3.6	2.7	4.6
MT. ROSE	9000	1/27/88	48	15.4	2.5	20.2
MT. ROSE SKI AREA	9000	2/03/88	60	19.7	8.8	29.5
SAGEHEN CREEK (CA)	6500	1/27/88	---	7.7E	4.0	11.0
SQUAW VALLEY #2 (CA)	7500	2/03/88	77	26.3	10.4	32.5
SQUAW VALLEY G.C.,CA	8200	2/03/88	73	25.3	11.5	34.2
TAHOE CITY CROSS(CA)	6750	2/01/88	---	9.9E	4.1	13.3
TRUCKEE #2 (CA)	6400	2/03/88	28	7.0	3.7	9.6

# SNOW DATA MEASUREMENTS (CONT)

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-85
-----						
CARSON RIVER						
BLUE LAKES (CA)	8000	1/26/88	63	19.4	6.4	26.1
CARSON PASS, UP (CA)	8600	1/27/88	54	17.6	6.5	22.6
CLEAR CREEK	7300	1/28/88	19	5.3	3.9	7.3
EBBETTS PASS #2 (CA)	8700	1/26/88	59	17.7	8.9	26.1
POISON FLAT #2 (CA)	7900	1/26/88	36	10.0	5.0	11.6
SPRATT CREEK (CA)	6080	1/26/88	18	4.9	--	5.8
WET MEADOWS #2 (CA)	8100	1/26/88	71	22.9	6.4	25.9
WALKER RIVER						
CENTER MOUNTAIN (CA)	9400	1/26/88	---	18.2E	7.1	23.2
LEAVITT LAKE (CA)	9400	1/26/88	71	22.5	8.4	30.7
LEAVITT MEADOWS (CA)	7200	1/26/88	19	4.8	1.3	6.8
LOBDELL LAKE (CA)	9200	1/26/88	29	6.7	4.4	12.0
SAWMILL RIDGE (CA)	8750	1/26/88	37	9.2	2.8	13.4
SONORA PASS (CA)	8800	1/26/88	43	12.1	4.9	16.9
TIOGA PASS (CA)	9900	2/02/88	54	17.6	4.9	18.4
VIRGINIA LAKES (CA)	9500	1/26/88	31	8.7	2.8	11.2
VIRGINIA LAKES RIDGE	9200	1/26/88	36	9.1	4.9	11.4
WILLOW FLAT (CA)	8250	1/26/88	24	6.8	2.7	7.6
NORTHERN GREAT BASIN						
BALD MOUNTAIN AM	6720	1/27/88	16	4.3	.6	2.1
BARBER CREEK (CA)	6500	1/29/88	25	7.2	4.5	8.0
CEDAR PASS (CA)	7100	1/25/88	30	9.9	7.6	10.3
DISASTER PEAK	6500	2/01/88	---	5.2E	3.5	10.4
DISMAL SWAMP #2 (CA)	7000	1/28/88	45	15.5	12.3	18.5
FORTY-NINE MOUNTAIN	6000	1/28/88	15	4.4	2.5	3.1
GOVERNMENT CORRALS	7450	1/28/88	22	7.3	5.8	--
HAYS CANYON	6400	1/29/88	13	3.1	1.4	2.7
LITTLE BALLY MTN. AM	6000	1/27/88	9	2.4	1.2	2.6
MT. BIDWELL (CA)	7200	1/28/88	42	13.9	--	--
PUEBLO SUMMIT AM	6800	1/28/88	4	.9	.0	--
QUINN RIDGE AM	6300	1/28/88	19	4.2	1.2	1.5
TROUT CREEK AM	7800	1/28/88	24	5.5	3.4	5.9

# SNOW DATA MEASUREMENTS (CONT)

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-85
-----						
HUMBOLDT RIVER, UPPER						
CORRAL CANYON	8500	1/26/88	42	11.4	3.9	8.2
DORSEY BASIN	8100	1/26/88	33	8.9	4.2	7.8
DRAW CREEK #2	7450	1/25/88	18	3.9	--	5.6
DRY CREEK	6500	1/26/88	20	5.4	2.1	3.5
FRY CANYON	6700	1/25/88	19	4.6	--	5.5
GREEN MOUNTAIN	8000	1/26/88	34	9.2	4.2	8.8
HARRISON PASS #1	6600	1/26/88	19	4.6	--	2.5
HARRISON PASS #2	7400	1/26/88	22	5.5	--	3.0
LAMOILLE #1	7100	1/26/88	28	7.1	2.4	5.9
LAMOILLE #3	7700	1/26/88	29	7.4	3.1	8.1
LAMOILLE #5	8700	1/26/88	53	15.8	6.6	17.9
POLE CANYON #2	7700	1/26/88	34	9.0	--	14.2
RODEO FLAT	6800	1/25/88	21	4.8	--	4.7
RYAN RANCH	5800	1/26/88	11	2.2	.3	1.3
SMITH CREEK	7700	1/26/88	34	9.0	5.1	--
TREMEWAN RANCH	5700	1/25/88	9	1.6	.6	1.5
TROUT CREEK, LOWER	6900	1/26/88	16	3.3	--	5.7
TROUT CREEK, UPPER AM	8500	1/26/88	31	8.8	5.1	9.4
HUMBOLDT RIVER, LOWER						
BIG CREEK MINE	7600	2/01/88	---	7.7E	.0	3.4
BIG CREEK SUMMIT	8700	2/01/88	---	20.5S	--	6.3
BIG CREEK, UPPER	7800	2/01/88	---	14.9E	.5	3.8
BUCKSKIN, LOWER	6700	2/01/88	---	3.7E	1.9	5.3
GRANITE PEAK	7800	2/01/88	---	9.2E	6.4	11.3
LAMANCE CREEK	6000	2/01/88	---	5.8E	4.5	6.9
MIDAS	7200	2/01/88	---	.8E	.0	2.9
EASTERN NEVADA						
BERRY CREEK	9100	2/01/88	---	6.6E	--	8.9
HOLE-IN-MOUNTAIN	7900	1/26/88	33	9.9	--	13.3
WARD MOUNTAIN #2	9200	2/01/88	---	15.3E	--	6.1



# SNOW DATA MEASUREMENTS (CONT)

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-85
-----						
SNAKE RIVER						
BEAR CREEK	7800	1/28/88	35	10.4	6.0	13.5
GOAT CREEK	8800	2/01/88	---	9.8E	5.4	11.7
HUMMINGBIRD SPRINGS	8950	2/01/88	---	13.8E	8.9	15.5
POLE CREEK R.S.	8330	2/01/88	---	11.8E	8.2	13.0
SEVENTYSIX CREEK	7100	1/25/88	23	5.8	4.5	8.3
STAG MOUNTAIN AM	7700	1/25/88	---	3.0E	1.7	3.7
OWYHEE RIVER						
BIG BEND	6700	1/25/88	22	5.4	2.0	6.2
FAWN CREEK #2	7050	1/25/88	32	8.1	5.3	12.5
GOLD CREEK	6600	1/25/88	16	3.7	1.3	3.9
JACK CREEK, LOWER	6800	1/25/88	19	4.6	2.6	2.6
JACK CREEK, UPPER	7250	1/25/88	24	6.0	4.2	5.3
JACK CREEK #2, UPPER	7280	1/25/88	36	9.5	6.8	17.9
JACKS PEAK	8420	1/25/88	42	9.4	9.1	14.4
LAUREL DRAW	6700	1/25/88	25	5.3	4.9	5.8
LOUSE CANYON AM	6440	1/28/88	15	3.4	2.7	4.1
TAYLOR CANYON	6200	1/25/88	15	3.3	1.4	4.1

# SNOW CORE MEASUREMENTS - DRI-ASC

DATE	SITE	ELEVATION FEET	LOCATION	SNOW IN.	WATER IN.	DENSITY
Jan.						
30	JC	5800	Clear Creek	5.0	1.6	.32
30	SS	7260	Spooner Summit	21.0	6.0	.29
30	FT	5250	Cliff Ranch, Franktown	11.0	3.3	.30
30	LV	6540	Little Valley	15.0	5.0	.33
30	DC	5160	Davis Creek	12.0	3.6	.30
30	8	4590	Jct. 395 & NV 27	0.0	0.0	---
30	6	5110	Lancer	0.0	0.0	---
30	4	5670	Whites Creek	7.0	2.3	.33
30	R	5700	Evergreen Hills Rd.	14.0	4.5	.32
30	2	6000	Jones Creek	14.0	4.6	.33
30	O	6400	RNR Forestry Site	19.0	5.5	.29
30	N	7060	Reindeer Lodge	24.0	7.8	.32
30	M	7440	Galena Creek	33.0	9.7	.29
30	K	7620	Sky Tavern	30.0	10.2	.34
30	G	8280	Mt. Rose Resort	46.0	14.5	.32
30	D	8820	Tamarack Lake	46.0	14.0	.30
30	A	8540	Tahoe Meadows	56.0	18.0	.32
30	U	8000	Below Incline Lake	34.0	10.1	.30
30	V	7300	Apollo Way	22.0	6.6	.30
30	Z	6235	Third & Incline Creeks	9.0	3.6	.40
31	BS	7200	Brockway Summit	33.0	9.5	.29
31	NS	6320	North Star Fire Dept.	22.0	5.8	.26
31	TRK	5900	Truckee - Tahoe Airport	13.0	4.1	.32
31	CK	6540	Cabin Creek	34.0	9.4	.28
31	SV	6240	Squaw Valley Fire Dept.	30.0	9.4	.31
31	TC	6200	Thunder Cliff	30.0	8.5	.28
31	TP	6240	Tahoe City	25.0	7.6	.30
31	BF	6200	Bennett Flat	31.0	8.7	.28
31	AC	6960	Alder Creek	53.0	16.4	.31
31	HM	5850	Hobart Mills	21.0	5.0	.24
31	SA	6340	Sagehen Creek	35.0	(10.5)	(.30)
31	LT	6410	Henness Past Jct.	27.0	8.0	.30
31	FL	6200	Fuller Lake	8.0	(2.6)	(.32)
30	JL	6000	Joy Lake	11.0	3.4	.31
			( ) Estimated			

## The Following Organizations Cooperate With The Soil Conservation Service In Snow Survey Work

### STATE

California Cooperative Snow Surveys  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
California Department of Water Resources  
Colorado River Commission of Nevada  
Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys  
Nevada Association of Conservation Districts  
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
    Division of Water Resources  
    Nevada State Forester  
    Division of Conservation Districts  
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys  
University of Nevada, Desert Research Institute  
Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys

### FEDERAL

Bureau of Reclamation  
Forest Service  
Geological Survey  
Soil Conservation Service  
U.S. District Court - Federal Water Master  
NOAA, National Weather Service

### PRIVATE

Nevada Irrigation District  
Owyhee Project North Board of Control  
Owyhee Project South Board of Control  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Pershing County Water Conservation District  
Sierra Pacific Power Company  
Truckee - Carson Irrigation District  
Walker River Irrigation District  
Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.



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